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### SCIENTIFIC NOTE

#### BIOLOGICAL DATA ON *CRYPTOCEPHALUS PALLIDICINCTUS* FALL (COLEOPTERA: CHRYSOMELIDAE)

While determining an unsorted lot of chrysomelid material from the collection of the University of California, Riverside, five unusual specimens of a *Cryptocephalus* were noted. These were tentatively determined as *Cryptocephalus pallidicinctus* Fall. In a review of the genus, White (1968, Smithsonian Institution, Bull., 290:76) states that this was the only North American species treated whose type was not examined. The type represented the only specimen known. For confirmation of the identification of the Riverside specimens the type for *C. pallidicinctus* was borrowed from MCZ. Comparison confirmed the identification.

All five UCR specimens were collected at the UCR Boyd–Deep Canyon Research Station, just south of Palm Desert, Riverside County, California.

Three specimens were taken October 9, 1963, one on April 4, 1963, and one April 4, 1964. The Fall type was collected at Palm Springs, Riverside County, on March 22, 1917. There were no host records. One October specimen was taken "at light."

In order to secure additional data a trip to Deep Canyon and surrounding desert areas was made on April 7–9, 1978. Beating nets were used to sweep a wide variety of plant material encountered near Palm Springs, with negative results. Entering Deep Canyon we resumed collecting in the same manner to the east of the station facilities, towards Coyote Creek, arcing to the north and returning to the station from this direction. Within 10 minutes we collected a specimen of *C. pallidicinctus* from *Dalea schottii* Torr. (Indigo bush). By day's end 20 specimens had been taken, all but four beaten from *Dalea*. The others were beaten from *Larrea divaricata* Cav. The next day, April 8, we resumed collecting to the west of the research station facilities, south into Deep Canyon proper. An additional 20 specimens were taken, 12 on *Dalea*, 6 on *Larrea*, 1 on *Eriogonum* sp. and 1 on an unknown plant. Specimens became scarce as we approached the northern and eastern limits of the alluvial fan formed between Deep Canyon and Coyote Creek, even though host material was still abundant. The next day (April 9) was spent, in part, at a location 10 miles west of Chiraco Summit (about 27 miles east of Deep Canyon). Beating nets were again employed to sample the vegetation, which was similar to that of Deep Canyon. One specimen was taken from *Dalea*. *Larrea* was beaten extensively with negative results. Very little, if any, *Dalea* had been encountered April 7 in the Palm Springs area, however, *Larrea* was sampled vigorously. It would appear that *D. schottii* Torr. is the principal adult host, but with 25% of the specimens taken from *Larrea* one could assume that this may also be an acceptable host for the adult. The collections from *Eriogonum* and the unknown plant may be incidental. From this, one might assume that the ground litter associated with *Dalea* would be the habitat for the immature stages of *C. pallidicinctus*. Efforts at rearing failed when eight captive individuals died after laying only one non-viable egg on the branches of *Dalea* provided. The egg was on a slender stalk (similar to eggs of *Chrysopa* sp.) and had been partially covered with a material (fecal?), which, if it had been complete, would have given the egg a distinctive sculpturing. This is evidently a characteristic shared by members of the Cryptocephalinae as well as other subfamilies of the Camptosomata (Moldenke, A. R., 1970, A Revision of the Clytrinae of North America North of the Isthmus of Panama (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae), Stanford University Press, Stanford, California, 310 pp.).

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